COBBETT'S WEEKLY POLITICAL REGISTER.

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"TEN THOUSAND POUNDS REWARD.——A Gentleman of *the most respectable connections*, is desirous "of obtaining a Permanent Post of HIGH HONOUR *in some department of the Government*. Unpractised himself in the arts of soliciting preferment, he takes this which he concieves the readiest way of "obtaining his object, by interesting *the feelings* of those who may have the power of forwarding his "views. If, therefore, any gentleman possessing the means will use them to procure for this Advertiser "such a post, Ten Thousand Pounds shall be deposited in the hands of any Banker, on the commencement of any treaty to be set on foot in consequence of this advertisement, to be paid to him or his order, "or any agent, upon terms hereafter to be agreed upon; or any elderly Gentleman in the *Commission of "Excise, Customs*, &c. desirous of *resigning* his Office, upon a favourable opportunity of making provision for his Family, at the same time possessing sufficient interest to obtain this object by recommendation "or otherwise, will, if he pleases, attend to this application. A sum to any amount, proportioned to the "emolument, will be given. It is of course unnecessary to state that the views of this Advertiser are "*considerable*; as also it is to abstain from the nonsensical declaration of secresy, usually found in advertisements of this kind, convinced that no treaty of this or any other nature can be brought to effect, "without a mutual understanding of good faith in the outset. Letters addressed H. Y. Z. to the Bar of the "British, Cockspur-street, before the 15th of July, will meet with every proper attention."——MORNING POST *news-paper, 7th July*, 1807.

SUMMARY OF POLITICS.

PROCEEDINGS IN PARLIAMENT. (Continued from page 52.)——I. *Jobs in General and in Particular.*——II. *Closed Doors.*——I. Upon the subject of JOBS we must revert to the report of the debate of the 26th of June upon the Speech from the throne. Lord Howick, who, in due course and form, opposed the address, took occasion to speak of what he called the *jobs* of his opponents. It was, doubtless, a harsh term to make use of; but, as he made use of it so may we. He was insisting, that the object in dissolving the parliament was to get a parliament more completely devoted to the ministry; much about, I suppose, my lord, the same object which the dissolution of 1806 had in view. But, that is no matter. In order to support his argument, his lordship mentioned several facts which had come to his knowledge, relating to the influence employed by the ministers, during, or upon the eve of the election. He said that, "with respect to the influence of the "crown, it had been exercised during the "last election, in a most unexampled manner. In this country to a great degree, "but in the *sister* kingdom most unblushingly, both in temptation and threats. "In one borough in Ireland, a candidate had *dared ANY elector to vote against him*; and he had been told, that in another popular contest, the crown solicitor had gone down, and informed Mr. Grogan, *that the forfeiture of his estates would be enforced, unless he and all his "tenantry voted for the partisans of government.* But there was another mode of "influence of public notoriety which he "would mention: it was the letter, dated "the 25th of April, from lord Hawkesbury to the lords lieutenants of counties "respecting the Volunteers. Lord Hawkesbury stated, that it was intended to "propose to parliament, to restore their "pay to such volunteers as came in after a "certain period, and also *to re-appoint the "Inspecting Field Officers*, which last he "(lord Howick) understood, had since "been done. Now let the house consider "the *date* of this letter: on the 25th of "April, the Secretary of State declares, "that it was intended to propose a certain "measure to parliament. In two days afterwards, parliament is prorogued, previous to its immediate dissolution; so "that the noble Secretary must have known "that he deprived himself of the power of "proposing the measure, by advising the "dissolution. The restoration of the Inspecting Field Officers was a most objectionable step. He had never met with "a single Volunteer-officer who did not "hold these Inspecting-officers in utter "contempt: they had no command: they "were not even empowered to order the "Volunteers to come to be inspected. From "the large staff which was attached to the "British army, consisting of Adjutants, "Quarter masters, Brigade majors, &c. "surely some better inspectors might be selected; aye, *but then this was an object "of great patronage!* Just at the time of

" the general election, *a hundred new offi-*
" *ces were to be distributed,* and these in-
" spectors of elections, for so they were in
" fact, were each to have pay and allowan-
" ces, *making the whole expence to the na-*
" *tion between* 37 *and* 40,000*l. a year for*
" *no advantage whatever!* This was the
" little beginning of these mighty enemies
" to patronage: more *pure and unadultera-*
" *ted jobs* never existed than these appoint-
" ments."——Thank you, my lord How-
ick! Thank you for this valuable declara-
tion. It will do us great good, if we have
but patience. To threaten the whole of the
electors of a borough was a bold thing to be
sure; and, I dare say, no such threats were
necessary *at Appleby*, that fine free borough,
which you have the honour to represent.—
Lord Howick was answered by Mr. Perce-
val, Chancellor of the Exchequer, Chan-
cellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Clerk
of the Irons, and reversioner of pa-
tent places, held by his brother, worth
about £12,000 a year. This gentleman is
reported to have said, that, " another charge
" brought against ministers by the noble
" lord was, that the influence of government
" had been exercised *beyond all former ex-*
" *ample*, at the late election. He was con-
" vinced, however, that no case could be
" produced *parallel to what had been*
" *brought under the consideration of the last*
" *parliament, with respect to the Hamp-*
" *shire Election.* The noble lord had in-
" stanced one case respecting Mr. Grogan,
" but this was the first he had heard of it;
" the noble lord had then stated, that it was
" notorious that 100 Inspecting Field Offi-
" cers had been appointed to the volunteer
" force previous to the election, with a view
" to influence the electors. There might
" or might not be merit in the appointment
" of these officers, but his majesty's pre-
" sent ministers, when out of power, had re-
" commended the measure, and now they
" were in office, they had adopted it. But
" the same officers that had been employed
" before were appointed, and they had not
" been appointed until after the election,
" and this was the measure which the noble
" lord had represented as an exercise of
" corrupt influence at elections beyond all
" former example. The noble lord appear-
" ed to him rather rash in his charge, and
" not to be acquainted with *some of the acts*
" *of his colleagues:* what would the house
" think of *the nomination of* 300, *not in-*
" *specting, but surveying officers of taxes,*
" *who could not be appointed either in law,*
" *or in fact, till an act of parliament should*
" *be passed to authorise the appointment?*
" What would they think of the designation
" of so many officers, *previous to the elec-*
" *tion of that parliament which was to pass*
" *the act, which was to authorise the ap-*
" *pointment of these officers?* The appoint-
" ment had not taken place, because the act
" had not passed, and there remained for
" the gentlemen opposite only to send *la-*
" *mentable letters* of apology, where they
" had no longer the power to realise their
" engagements."——From a mild compas-
sionate gentleman, such as Mr. Perceval is,
one might have expected something more
humane than ridicule of 300 hungry wretch-
es, gaping for plunder, as unfledged buzzards
gape for their prey, and, just as it was reach-
ing their mouths, seeing it snatched away
for ever. According to his account, too, the
prey had been paid for, or earned. The
hard and dirty work was all performed.
Had he no bowels, that he could ridicule
wretches so treated? Did he, I wonder, re-
flect upon the number of " genteel families"
that this non-fulfilment of articles would
plunge into distress; upon the number of
new shawls and dresses that it would leave
unpaid for; upon the number of forte-pianos
that it would reduce to silence; upon the
number of routes that it would prevent;
upon the number of lazy rascals that it would
send to pauperize in some other way? Did
he reflect on none of this?——There seems,
on the two sides, to have been a pretty equal
balance of jobs. Mr. *Grogan's* is, I think,
rather the strongest instance; but, then, the
three hundred tax-gatherers surpass, without
doubt, the one hundred inspecting field-offi-
cers. Both, I dare say, ought to be consi-
dered as equally useful to the country; but
all that *the people* have to remember is this
that, *if the assertions of both parties are no*
false, one of the parties, at least, has made
the *appointments in question for the purpose*
not of doing good to the country, but of get-
ting votes on their side in the House of Com-
mons. This is what the people have to bear
in mind.——In the next grand debate upon
the subject of Jobs, Mr. Perceval was the as-
sailant. The subject of discussion was the
re-appointment of the Finance Committee;
and, Mr. Perceval, in order to show, that it
was necessary to have a good number of his
friends upon that committee, said, that the
conduct of the late ministry would require to
be examined into. This let him easily into
the subject of jobs, whereon he proceeded
thus:—" The late ministers had express
" themselves on the first appointment of
" the committee, very much averse to

" grant of places in reversion; there was, " however, one instance to which attention " had been called, of their having, a short " time before they went out of office, ap- " pointed to offices in reversion of a most " extraordinary nature: he alluded to the " appointment of *a Collector and Surveyor* " *of Customs in the port of Buenos Ayres,* " *a place not then in the possession of his* " *Majesty.* These were reversionary grants " to take place upon an uncertain contin- " gency, and made by those gentlemen who " appeared to be so nice on this subject. " He had on a former occasion stated, " without giving any opinion upon the pro- " priety of appointing such officers, the no- " mination *of* 300 *Surveyors of Taxes.* The " nomination was founded on a representa- " tion from the Commissioners of Taxes, " made in March, 1806, but the appoint- " ment could not take place till the business " was submitted to parliament. When the " dissolution took place in October, without " any sanction of parliament having been " obtained for these appointments, the per- " sons were designated to the offices, in the " way the noble lord had said on a former " night: *Members of Parliament* waited on " the minister, *they were received civilly,* " *and the promises made* But the parlia- " ment met in December, and sat some " months; the measure for sanctioning the " appointment was not brought forward, " and the hon. gentlemen opposite, when " they lost the power of performance, were " compelled to revert to the condoling let- " ters which he had before alluded to. This " circumstance would induce the house not " to place implicit or peculiar confidence in " those gentlemen who viewed every thing " in the same light with the late adminis- " tration. Another appointment made by " the late administration; was that of Ga- " zette Writer created by patent for Scot- " land, *with a salary of* £300 *per annum.* " This office had been before divided be- " tween the Editors of three Newspapers. " He wished the hon. gentlemen to hear " his statement, and to bear in mind that " the business of the office was performed " by these three persons, *without any ex-* " *pence to the public, though they made a* " *profit of* £200 *a year by the publications* " *in their newspapers.* These persons had " been turned out of their employment, " and an appointment by patent given to " the present possessor; and he should ask " whether any gentleman believed that this " had been done with any other view *than* " *to give the place to that person?* He " should not dwell in detail upon all the " acts of the late ministers, but he confess- " ed himself at a loss to understand what " they could mean by the appointment of *a* " *Professor of Medical Jurisprudence.* He " acknowledged that he was ignorant of the " duty of that professor, and could not " comprehend what was meant by the " science he professed. There had also " been *three new Sheriffs* appointed in Scot- " land, with salaries *of between* £250 *and* " £300 a year, on a division of counties, " *where the duties were before executed as* " *in one Shrievalty.* These were some of " the many acts of the late administration, " which would be likely to come under the " consideration of the committee. Another " appointment, which was equally censura- " ble, was the grant of a pension, *during* " *pleasure,* of £400 a year, *to a civil and* " *criminal Judge in Scotland.*—This grant " had, no doubt, not been carried into ef- " fect, but it was owing to the doubts en- " tertained by the person who was to carry " it into effect in Scotland, as to its legal- " ity. He should not go through the other " exceptionable appointments made by these " gentlemen, as he had stated enough to " shew, that those who thought exactly " with them, were not to be exclusively con- " fided in."——Confided in! no, indeed; but, they would have done very well to fer- ret out the jobs of their opponents, as an old poacher is said to make the best of game- keepers; and, as to the finding out of *their* jobs, another committee might have been appointed for that purpose.——The answer to this cruel attack came from Lord Henry Petty, who confessed that he was quite un- prepared for defence, not having had any warning of his antagonists' intention; and, indeed, this was rather unfair on the part of Mr. Perceval, it being the very laudable practice of the Honourable House to give each of its members *due notice* of any thing that is about to be said against them, whe- ther by petition or otherwise; for, unless he has such notice, how is a man to answer? His lordship, after having uttered his com- plaint proceeded to say, that, " the conduct " of the right hon. gentleman was the more " extraordinary, as he had *sheltered* an hon. " baronet (Sir H. Mildmay) on the preced- " ing night, from the effects of a charge " against him, before a single document " should be produced in his justification; " and yet, without any documents to bear " him out, that right hon. gent. called upon " the house to receive his various charges " against his majesty's late ministers. Un- " prepared as he must be, from his igno- " rance of the intention or attack of the

" right hon. gent. he should, so far as his " memory served him, endeavour to follow " the right hon. gent. through his state- " ment. One of the charges made by the " right hon. gent. was, the appointment of " a Collector for the Port of Buenos Ayres. " Would not every gentleman imagine, from " the manner in which this charge had " been urged, that a considerable expence " was incurred, a heavy burthen accrued in " consequence to the public? Was it not " common candour, or rather was it not a " gross want of candour in the right hon. " gent., not to have stated, that no expence " was to be incurred on the part of the pub- " lic, till the duties of the office were to be " performed *on the re-capture* of Buenos " Ayres? considerable inconvenience had " been felt from the want of an establish- " ment for the collection of the Duties in " the first instance, and the appointment " had been made *to guard against a similar* " *inconvenience in the re-capture of the Set-* " *tlement.* He did not exactly remember " the precise time at which that appoint- " ment took place. The right hon. gent. " had renewed his statement with respect " to the appointment of the Surveyors of " Taxes, a measure which had *originated* " *with the Commissioners of Taxes.* As to " the nomination of the officers, some might " have been so nominated, but since the " matter had been mentioned, several per- " sons had stated to him that they had re- " commended individuals to these offices, " but it had been uniformly answered, that " no appointment could take place without " the sanction of parliament. Another " charge was the creation of an office, to " which some might object, but which had " been given to an individual, who had de- " voted *a long life of disinterested service to* " *the public*, and who had in the University " but an income of £135 per annum. It " had been thought a better mode to pro- " vide for this distinguished and meritorious " gentleman, Mr. Dugald Stuart, by giving " him that place, which had before been " enjoyed by three Newspaper Writers, " than by a pension. Were editors of " Newspapers the *only* literary men the " gentlemen opposite would protect? Was " theirs the only science they encouraged? " As to the pension to a civil and criminal " Judge, he had heard nothing of any such " grant. He should not be bold enough to " say, that any administration might not " fall into abuses, and he had always since " he had a seat in that house, *supported* " *motions for inquiries*, whether in the " shape of Naval or Military Commissions. " He was glad to see the right hon. gent. " following the example which he had him- " self, for the first time, given of excluding " persons in office from such a Committee. " As to the gentlemen whom the right hon. " gent. left out from the number of the for- " mer Committee, he should only say, that " he saw no good ground for such exclusion. " He thought the object of the right hon. " gent. would be gained by introducing " eight new members in the place of those " who were not members of this parlia- " ment, and of the hon. baronet and the " hon. gentleman opposite, now in office. " *If the parliament was not dissolved to get* " *rid of the Committee, why not revive it as* " *far as that could be done, as it existed be-* " *fore the dissolution?* The members who " had proceeded with the business in the " former committee, would more readily " take it up in this, and he should there- " fore object to any individual who should " be proposed, to the exclusion of any of " the former members who were eligible."

——This last is all very reasonable; but, only think of granting places *for life* to a collector and surveyor of the customs at Buenos Ayres, ready against it should be *re-captured!* This was selling the lion's skin with a vengeance. What, to produce such an act, must have been the greediness and impatience of the Honourable Gentlemen, to whom such grants were made! What a life, too, must be that of a minister of state, plagued with the applications of such persons! The plagues of Egypt must have been a trifle to what a minister so situated has to endure. But, it is the natural consequence of the present state of the House of Commons, where, as a correspondent lately observed, the minister of the day must, some how or other, obtain a majority, *or else the government cannot go on.*——I am sorry for Mr. DUGALD STUART, whose great literary merits I am not unacquainted with. His former income would have kept body and soul together; and, if not, would it not have been better to have let them separate a few years sooner, than become, at last, the subject of a wrangle in the Honourable House; than see his name in the Red Book; than be enrolled in the Regiment; than be placed upon a footing with state paupers of the day?——When lord Henry Petty asserted, that he had " always supported motions for " inquiries," he forgot the opposition which he gave to Mr. Robson's motion for an inquiry into the Barrack-Expenditure in the Isle of Wight; and, indeed, he must have forgotten the opposition which he gave to the motion, out of which this very Fi-

nance Committee grew. He opposed Mr. Biddulph's motion; and, though he himself moved for a committee, he took good care, that it should be so composed, and so pinned down as to its powers, that it should be little more than a thing of mere form; and, accordingly, nothing did it do, not a word did we hear of its discoveries, until lord Henry Petty and his colleagues were out of office, and had a deep interest in making exposures. For the very same reason, however, that the committee was not what I could have wished *then*, the same persons would have composed a committee that I should like *now*. What I want is, not the smothering, but the exposing of peculation and jobs; and, I know no persons so likely to expose as those who *wish* to expose. The law invites people to inform against offenders. It does more, it commands them to do it. In some cases it offers rewards for such information, and in other cases it threatens with punishment for a neglect to give information. But, here, where the public is so deeply interested, much more than it is in the detection of smugglers or highwaymen, it seems that the quest is to be made by persons "*impartially*" chosen, just as if the offenders themselves were the choosers of their pursuers. There wants no impartiality. There wants, in such a committee, nothing but intelligence and activity; and of these the old committee had given good proofs. The committee are not to be *judges*. They are merely to examine and report. The House is to be the judge What should any of us common mortals think of a man, who, if called upon to render an account of his conduct were to insist upon having his friends to receive that account? And, if he has a *majority* of his friends, is not that the same thing? This Finance Committee is to act as detectors and accusers; and, what would be said of that man, who should insist that it was unfair for him to be detected and accused by any one who was not his avowed friend?——After lord Henry Petty followed a Scotch gentleman, who, word for word, repeated what Mr. Perceval had said.——Next came Mr. Brand, who "wished for a fair and *honourable* Inquiry, such as was due to the *character of the House*, such as was expected by an anxious country and a suffering people. He was partial to the right hon. gentlemen on the bench below him (the late ministers), from a high opinion of their talents and integrity. But if any charge should be made on them, he would be the first to call for inquiry and investigation into the grounds of that charge. But when he looked to the bench opposite (the Treasury Bench), and saw on it men certainly all remarkable for their talents, but of whom *not two were without pensions, sinecures, and reversions, settled on themselves, or on their families*, inquiry was loudly called for, to shew *how they and their infants had become possessed of those drains from the public purse*. He was shocked at the mode of meeting one accusation by retorting another. When those most remarkable for ability in investigation were excluded, when the names of the new Commissioners were more numerous than those of the old, when the present Ministers, not satisfied with introducing eight names instead of those of the old members not returned, he was sure the country would not think the present Committee auspicious to the cause of retrenchment and reform. To baffle a people loaded with burthens by holding out *a delusive investigation*, could lead to nothing but disappointment and discontent. He lamented the insinuation, that no set of men could be found in the house free from party devotions, or from party animosity, an insinuation that must *sink the character of the House in the opinion of the country*, and must diminish the hopes entertained from the investigation."——In this conclusion I think Mr Brand was deceived; for, I see not the least reason to suppose, that any insinuation, however foul, can sink the character of the House in the opinion of the country. No; the House is not to be affected by insinuations of any sort; its character has long been such as to enable it to set all insinuations at defiance. Individual members, and even parties, may now and then suffer by comparison, in point of reputation; but, as to the Honourable House, taking it as a whole, I venture to assert that its character is far beyond the reach of detraction. "Sink the character of the House, the Honourable House, in the opinion of the country!" Oh, no! there is, thanks to its members, no fear of that. The country know that House too well; they feel too sensibly the effects of its wise and just and impartial decisions to suffer themselves to listen to any thing calculated to sink it in their opinion. No; the country entertain a very just opinion of the Honourable House; and, as Mr Brand seemed to be uneasy upon this score, it must afford him great satisfaction to hear me say, that, from all parts of the country, my correspondents assure me, that apprehensions like his are perfectly groundless.——Mr. Canning came on after Mr. Brand, for, as the reader will

have perceived, each side takes its turn in putting forward a man, as regularly as if the whole affair was previously arranged. He said, that, " if human affairs could be con- " ducted without partiality or prejudice, the " plan they recommended would be enti- " tled to preference. But as the contrary " was the fact, and *as personal and party at- " tachments were known to be almost univer- " sally prevalent in that house*, he saw no " danger in avowing to the public what was " already well known, the prevalence of " those party attachments, and to guard " against any *unfair preponderance* of those " attachments, by *balancing the number of " the parties*. It was therefore desirable to " avoid appointing those whose party preju- " dices ran all in the same course. He " would indeed be ready to allow, that if " there was one set of men free from all " party prejudice and animosity, that if " those men had been for many years out of " office, and if on coming at length into of- " fice, they exercised their power, neither " to stigmatize their opponents, nor imme- " diately to reward their adherents, he " would allow that it would be very fit to " encourage so brilliant an example of pu- " rity, by appointing these men to be of the " committee. If not perfectly pure, they " would at least be perfectly unaccused, " while the conduct of the inquiry would be " in their own hands. If, however, he were " called upon to point out the description of " men most free from political animosity, it " was not to the opposite bench that he " would look. If he was called upon to " point out those who had abstained most " from the use of power for the advantage " of their dependents, he would look there " as little for the reality of the fanciful per- " fection which was so much to be wished " for. If, on the contrary, he were to look " for those who made the best use of a very " short interval of power for the benefit of " themselves and their adherents, the hon. " gentlemen were those on whom he " should fix. He had heard of a certain " Roman moralist, who wished to live in a " house of glass, that every thing he did " might be seen (*a laugh*) .—If that moral- " ist had lived in these times he would have " learned, that he who lived in a glass " house, should not begin by throwing " stones (*a loud laugh*). Those by whom " this principle of parliamentary practice " had been not long since laid down, were " now unwilling that the house of glass, " which this inquiry was to constitute, " should be enlarged by a bow window, so " as to include them. (*A laugh*). It was " impossible to state grounds for inquiry, " otherwise than generally and in detail. " When his right hon. friend made general " charges, he was called as loudly to parti- " cularise, and when he did particularise, " those who forced him to do so cried " shame. Well, indeed, might the specifi- " cation be objected to by the noble lord op- " posite, and his colleagues. If the plan of " the late ministers had been pursued; if " collectors, comptrollers, surveyors, search- " ers, and waiters had been appointed not " only to all the ports we should conquer, " but to all those that we should intend to " conquer, what would have been the con- " sequence? We should have had Collec- " tors and Comptrollers of the Bosphorus, " and Searchers and Waiters of Rosetta— " (*loud peals of laughter*) —There was here " to be observed a great change in the tone " of the right hon. gentleman on the sub- " ject of Buenos Ayres. When the con- " quest of that place was effected, the hon. " gentleman thought it not worthy of being " mentioned in the King's Speech. Now " it had acquired a vast importance in their " eyes; and why? Not from its importance " to the commerce or navigation, or to the " general resources of the country, but be- " cause it was a place that afforded room " for the appointment of Collectors, Comp- " trollers, Searchers, and Waiters. This " was a complete key to the whole policy " of the late ministers—and a most happy " illustration it was of their large, liberal, " and enlightened views. However far the " range might have extended in contempla- " tion, the actual list ended here, and it be- " came necessary to return home to the " 300 surveyors. The noble lord's defence " here, as in the former instance, was, that " the appointment was prospective. But " was the influence prospective! Why did " the appointment take place on the eve of " a General Election? If the coincidence " was accidental, the hon. gentlemen were " the first favourites of fortune. He ac- " knowledged the high literary merit of Mr. " Dugald Stuart, who had besides the me- " rit, and he thought it no light one, of " having educated the noble lord (H. Petty). " He acknowledged and lamented the ge- " neral insufficiency of the rewards bestow- " ed on literary merit in this country; but " he highly condemned the mode of reward " here adopted, by constituting a new sine- " cure, and bestowing it on Mr. Stuart and " his assignees for 21 years. As to the " comparison instituted by the noble lord " between this grant and the rewards grant- " ed to the writers of the Anti-Jacobin, by

" for one, felt no shame for the character or " principles of that work; nor any other " sorrow for the share he had in it than that " which the imperfection of his pieces " was calculated to inspire. He was " told that this provision for Mr. Stuart " was substituted for a professorship of " medical jurisprudence, which it had been " intended to institute. He should like to " see the hon. gent. in the full swing of " their insolence of power, making this " appointment, immediately after their " unqualified attacks upon their antagonists, " as much as to say, " Though you can do " nothing, we dare do every thing." He " doubted whether this same science of me- " dical jurisprudence could be found any " where mentioned, even in the Scotch " Encyclopædia. *(A laugh.)* In answer " to what the noble lord had said about " Newspapers, he would ask, was there no " instance here, of a newspaper conspi- " cuous for its attachment to the constitu- " tion, and in the fairness of its mode of " detailing all transactions in which its par- " ty interests had place, *whose proprietor* " *was appointed Secretary to the Barrack* " *Board, at which a secretary was a new* " *and a sinecure institution?*'—— This last was a hit, a palpable hit, at Mr. Perry; and richly he deserves it. I told him he would repent of becoming a placeman. I told him it was better to continue to walk on foot, than to be drawn about in a wooden case by two horses at the expense of his independence. He is done up *for ever*; because, though out of place now, we know that he has been in; and we never shall again look upon him as being actuated by public-spirited motives. He is in *the regiment*, and that is enough.——I have inserted all the *laughs* in Mr. Canning's speech; and, it is truly curious to observe, how witty a man becomes the moment he is in place. Mr. Canning made a great many long speeches while he was out of place, and nobody laughed. The laughing was, however, of short duration; for MR. CURWEN rose next after him, and put to him this simple question: " have " not *you* a *pension?*" Whereupon the right honourable Secretary, " with great *dignity* " and *feeling*," said, that, " when he left " the foreign office, a noble lord in ano- " ther House and a Right Honourable Gen- " tleman, now, unhappily, no more, had " *pressed* him to take a pension, one half of " which he had requested him to settle up- " on two very near and dear relations, who " were dependant upon his labours for " support; and, whether he merited this, " or not, he must leave to be decided by " the noble lord in the other House." This answer in plain language was: " True, I " have a pension, and so have my two sis- " ters; but, it was granted by Lord Gren- " ville, who is one of your party, and by " Pitt, whom you are constantly praising; " therefore, talk to Lord Grenville, or shut " your mouth."——But, though this might be a very good answer to " the gentlemen " opposite," was it an answer to the bur- dened and complaining people? Was it an answer to the widow, who out of a legacy of a hundred a year pays in *direct* taxes so much as to reduce the hundred to *eighty one* pounds a year? He takes half to himself and gives half to his sisters; that is to say, the Cannings get three pensions instead of one. And *for what?* Why, because he had been three or four years an under secre- tary of state at a solid salary of two thou- sand a year besides off-cuts and slabs. Out of this salary he might have given his sisters what he pleased; but, what reason was there for fastening them for life upon the people of this country? " They were de- " pendant upon his labour for subsistence." Very well; but, had the receiving of two thousand a year, for some years, from the public, disqualified him for labour? What was he *before?* Had he earned more? Had he *lost* any thing by being under-secre- tary of state? Why, then, are *we* to work for the maintenance of his sisters, any more than for the sisters of another man? Oh! it is very easy to be kind to one's relations in this way. " Two *very near* and *very dear* " relations!" Hi . . . . . hi . . . . hickup! Aye, one may force out a sort of a half blubber at it; but, where is the reason and justice of the thing? Where, too, is the kindness? The public purse, at this rate; the labour of the people, becomes a source of paternal, fraternal, and filial affection, of personal friendship, and of Christian charity!——More of these pensions ano- ther time. They are a very pretty instance of the application of the public money; and it will be very useful to keep them in view; because there will a time come to put all such matters right.——Next after the Canning Pensions naturally comes the *Mildmay Contract*, upon which subject nothing more, for the present, at least, would have been said by me, had not Sir Henry, with what degree of dis- cretion I shall not presume to say, again agitated the question, by moving, in the House of Commons, on the 8th of this month, for the production of certain letters from some of the Moulsham Hall *Ju- rymen*. But, let us hear Sir Henry's ac-

count of these letters. There is nothing like hearing him out: " Sir H. Mildmay " rose pursuant to notice, to move that " there be laid before the house a supple- " ment to his memorial which was already " upon the table. He took that occasion " to state that *he owed considerable ac- " knowledgments to lord Sidmouth's Go- " vernment*, for the fairness and liberality " which he had experienced from it. His " first offer had been made to the Barrack " Office during that administration, but " *the whole of the business respecting " the letting of his house, had taken place " after that administration had gone out of " office.* His principal object in rising had " been to move that there be laid before " the house certain letters which he had " received *from some individuals of the " Jury*, that had awarded him the compen- " sation for the injury his property had sus- " tained. Of the whole of those who com- " posed the Jury, he was not acquainted " with the addresses of more than four, " one of whom was the foreman. They " were amongst the most respectable per- " sons in the county. The hon. baronet " then read extracts from these letters, " which explicitly stated, that the 16 acres, " with the house, were not included in the " estimate of compensation; *that the award " did not preclude the hon. baronet from re- " siding in or disposing of the house*; that " of the 1300l. awarded by the Jury, 700l. " was for the injury done *to the ground* by " the works, and to defray the expence of " restoring it to the state in which it was " before the construction of the works; " and that the Jury *were aware*, at the " time of making their award, *of his be- " ing in treaty with government for the " house*" ——Now, let us take the points in their due order.——Sir Henry says, that " the whole of the business respecting the " letting of the house took place *after the " Addington administration were out of " office.*" Aye, and so I told the public a fortnight ago, Sir Henry; but, you, Sir, told the house on the 29th of June, that " the transaction took place under Mr. Ad- " dington's ministry, *for whom you never " gave a vote in your life*; so that if it was " a job, *the ministry had jobbed against " themselves.*" This was an argument, Sir, this was said in your defence; this was urged as a strong proof in your favour; and this proof you have now been compelled to give up, the truth being, that, though your land was put into the hands of government in the month of October, 1803, no offer was made of the house, *no jury was impannelled*, until Pitt, for whom you had always voted, came into place, and you *began your bargaining in less than a week* after he and his associates were seated upon the Treasury Bench! It was about that time, too, that you acted a most conspicuous part in the House of Commons. You, Sir, produced the fact of the transaction having taken place under an administration, for whom you never gave a vote in your life; you produced this as a proof, that the thing *was not a job*; but, that fact being proved not to be true, and, it being also proved, that the transaction took place under an administration, with whom you had been always voting, for whom you were voting and most zealously speaking, at the very time that you were driving the bargain, is there not some danger that your argument may be turned against yourself?—As to the letters from *some* of the jurymen, to say nothing of the novelty of the thing, why not produce letters from them *all*? Besides, how came the jurymen to write letters upon the subject? " Volunteers." I suppose? Eh, Sir Henry? " Volunteers?" Well we shall see *who* and *what* these letter-writers are; and we shall then be at perfect liberty to canvass their conduct too. That is all that remains now to be done; for, as to the rest of the parties concerned, there needs, at present, not another word upon their conduct ——Upon this occasion, " lord How- " ick said he had no objection to the pro- " duction of this Paper, and he hoped it " would prove as satisfactory as the state- " ment just made by the hon. baronet, " though he lamented that it did not appear " to him yet as satisfactory as could be " desired. There seemed to be some strange " mistake in the case, because *the hon. ba- " ronet had stated in his examination before " the committee, that the 400l. a year was " to procure him another residence*; and " *NOW it was said to have been granted, " on the general ground of enabling him " to restore the land from the injury done " by the works.* If the sum had been " awarded for the rent, it would have been " an exorbitant allowance to make an award " at the rate of 20l. per acre; and if for " the land, the whole of the compensation " ought to go to the tenants. But the hon. " baronet in his examination had stated, *that " the 400l. per annum was to provide ano- " ther residence for him*; in this view there- " fore, the statement did not appear to him " to be satisfactory."—Yes, this is the pinch. There is no getting out of it. A correspondent, whose letter I insert in another part of this sheet, and who labours hard to defend Sir

Henry, says, "It is one thing for a gentle-
"man to have his residence rendered *un-*
"*pleasant*, from the vicinity of military
"works, and to receive a compensation to
"enable him to procure another residence;
"and another thing to let the residence."
Aye, is it; quite another thing; but, then, if he receives £400 a year because the residence is rendered unpleasant, he is not to receive another £400 a year, and that, too, *from the same party*, for the use of such residence? But, this *unpleasant* is a miserable shuffle. Sir Henry swears, before the Commissioners, that the Jury gave him £400 a year *to provide him with another place of residence*; and, when the Barrack-Master General says that to rent the house will be a waste of the public money, Mr. Brownrigg tells him, that it must be rented, *as a remuneration to Sir Henry Mildmay for the loss of his residence.* If this is not being paid twice for the same thing, there is no possibility of ascertaining the meaning of words. Can the Jurymen say, that they were informed, that Sir Henry Mildmay was freed from residence, *at his own special request*, and at the public expence? Can they say, that they were informed, that he was to receive £400 for the rent of his house, from the public? If they can say this, then it will remain for them to account for their enormous award; and, if they cannot say this, of what weight is any thing that they can say upon the subject.——I insert, in another part of this sheet, a letter from a Hampshire freeholder, which will shew, that Sir Henry's case is not at all misunderstood.——We will now take our leave of Sir Henry Mildmay, for the present, and stretch across to the coast of Africa.——I mentioned the affair, the pretty little quiet affair, of *Sierra Leone*, in my last sheet. I observed, that we had been paying most smartly for this project, and that we should have to pay still more for it. I will now just insert the brief report of what passed upon the subject on the 7th of this month in the Honourable House of Commons.——"*Mr. H. Thornton* presented a petition from the Sierra Leone Company, *praying aid*. *Lord Temple* wished to know if the bill for transferring this possession to the crown was to be carried into a law: any grant to the company would in that case be unnecessary. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said that a bill was now in progress. The aid to be granted was only for the maintenance of the settlement till the transfer could take place.—Mr. Dent gave notice, that he would in due season oppose what he could describe by no milder term, than that of the RANKEST JOB that had ever come before parliament." No, Sir, not the *rankest*. I could point out to you some jobs, transacted in former parliaments, that very far surpass this.——Now, what a noble field for emulation and for the reward of merit is here opening again! Here will be a governor, a commander in chief, aides de camp, secretaries, law-officers, collectors, comptrollers, surveyors, searchers, waiters; and, the Lord have mercy upon us, where will the list end! How many "genteel families" will get "*handsome things*" done for them now! Here is another hour or two of hard labour in a year for every Englishman whose lot it is to eat his own earnings.——So much for "Jobs," as they are called in the reports of the debates which take place in the Honourable House; and, after that subject, there comes very naturally that of——II. CLOSED DOORS —— On the 6th instant, Mr. Whitbread, in consequence of a previous notice, brought forward a motion on the *State of the Nation*, that being the term made use of as a signal for a grand combat, during the long wars of Pitt and Fox, which wars were infinitely more injurious to England than were the wars of the red and white roses. When all was ready, the two battalions of the regiment regularly drawn up, and the reporters with pens in their button-hole bottles, prepared to record the deeds of the heroes on each side, Mr. Whitbread set on thus: "I am not,
"Sir, altogether unaccustomed to address
"this assembly. During the number of
"years I have had the honour of a seat
"among you, it has been my lot to bring
"forward several important propositions,
"some of which have experienced a fa-
"vourable reception, but the greater part
"a determined opposition. Yet never
"have I been in the habit of making
"any apology for the insufficiency of the
"proposer, however strongly I felt it, think-
"ing it better to rely on the solidity of
"the grounds upon which my propositions
"rested, than to attempt conciliating atten-
"tion by apologies. But I must confess
"on this occasion, whether from the
"growing diffidence of the public in public
"men; whether from the manner in
"which I have been recently spoken of
"in this Assembly; whether from the
"nature of the debates which have lately
"taken place amongst us, in which a
"spirit of attack and recrimination has
"been manifested, by no means calculated
"to raise the character of this house *(a loud*
"*cry of hear! hear!)*; whether from the

" disastrous state of the times, or whether " from all these feelings combined, I never " rose with so great a degree of diffidence " and solicitude. If in my endeavours to " bring back the gravity of debate—to get " rid of the spirit of recrimination which " has too long prevailed amongst us, and " to retrieve the falling fortunes of this " mighty empire"——..... Here the *Right Hon. D. Browne*, of Mayo, rose to order, and moved that strangers be excluded, which was accordingly done immediately; and, as the reporters and others were scrambling out through the passages and down the stairs, they cried out occasionally, with the king in Hamlet, " Lights, lights, " ho! away! away!" Though I do not know, and have never before even heard of, the Right Honourable Browne, I like his motion exceedingly. For the profane vulgar to know what was said upon such an occasion would have been very wrong indeed; and, it would have been still worse for Napoleon to know it; for, without doubt, there were discussed, during that long debate, most extensive and profound plans of national policy. The causes of Napoleon's successes and of our failures were, I dare say, clearly developed; and, I am full as confident, that the means of warding off the consequences were as clearly placed before the Honourable House. But, any pleasure, great as it, doubtless, would have been, that I should have derived from a perusal of such developement, I freely forego it for the good of my country. " In the multitude of councillors there is " wisdom." What a happy people, then, are we, who have nearly a thousand of them, who think nothing of sitting up all night with no other earthly view than that of watching over us! Napoleon is bit at last. He thought to know our secrets, did he! Egad! the Honourable House will soon convince him, that they know how to keep a secret.——The closing of the doors came, indeed, some week, or so, too late, in the opinion of John Bowles and his like. They wanted them closed sooner; but, for choosing the time, the happy moment, for a measure of this sort, let the Honourable House alone. They always know what they are about. And, besides, they are our representatives, are they not? And what is done by them, is *done by us*; therefore, what an Inconsistent thing it is to grumble! ——The Morning Chronicle imputes the closing of the doors to the ministers, because, forsooth, the Right Honourable Dennis Browne always votes on the side of the ministers; but, this is very slack reasoning; for, I dare engage, that the Right Honourable Dennis Browne, of *Mayo*, knew very well what to do, without consulting any minister whatever.——As to his voting upon the side of ministers, it was, of course, because he thought it best so to do; and, from what other motive ought a man to vote?——I am quite indignant at these slanderous iusinuations, and particularly as coming from one who was, only the other day, a stout champion for " regu- " lar government, social order, and our " holy religion," chiming in, second bell, to John Bowles.

CONTINENTAL WAR.——Upon this subject I have so much to say, that I can say hardly any thing at present. The war has ended precisely as I foretold at its outset. I stated what I thought would be the result, and I *gave my reasons* at large for my opinion. How much and shamefully I was abused for that opinion, the reader will not have forgotten; and, all that I now ask of him, is, to read over, once more, my articles, upon this war, at its beginning, which articles he will find in volume X of the Register.——The *shaking fit* seems to have returned to many persons. They really seem to have thought, that the Boulogne fleet would never be heard of again! And now they are filled with dread. For my part, I feel *less* apprehension than formerly. Not that I should like a set of upstart, unprincipled villains, who would swear truth out of the world, to hold the rod over me, to pillage me in virtue of one of their accursed decrees, to send their civil hirelings to rob me, while their foreign armed ruffians stood by to keep me in awe; no, God forbid that I should like this, that I should ever bring my mind patiently to contemplate submission so degrading; but, I have, from long thinking upon the subject, brought myself to a conviction, that the French never will succeed in bringing us into this state. The *why* and the *wherefore* I might have some difficulty in detailing; but, the conviction I entertain, and under it I am easy; and, what is more, I am fully persuaded, that, however some persons may tremble, this conviction is felt by ninety-nine out of every hundred men in the nation. I do not *reason* much upon the matter. I have done asking how the French can get here or to Ireland, and how we are able to repel them. I know the enemy to be powerful by land, and that he may soon become powerful by sea; I see the force of all Europe collected against us, and I have considered in detail the probable acts of such a conqueror; but,

when I consider who we have for Commanders, and particularly for Commander in Chief; when I consider the strength of our armies; when I consider the extent of our immense resources, and the manner of distributing those resources; when I consider, in short, the whole of the force and state of the nation, the whole of the scene that lies before me, I stop not to reason, but involuntarily exclaim, Buonaparte, I set thy utmost ingenuity, power and malice at defiance!——I fear one thing, indeed, and that is that our gallant friends, the *Hanoverians*, will not be able to get at the French. This was a dirty trick in the Danes, who are said to have shut (out of pure envy I dare say) the Sound against our expedition! I was always afraid of something of this sort. I said, that the Hanoverians would arrive too soon or too late; and now, curse light upon the Danes, they are stopping them! The Courier recommends war against the Danes, and so do I. I would sell the shirt off my back to support a war against the Danes. What right had they to stop our expedition? Now it will come back again, Lord Cathcart and all, without having got even a glimpse of the French.——The Morning Post, at the conclusion of a long paragraph about Napoleon's recent victories, says, " as to his views against this country, " they will assuredly prove abortive; for here " he will find a people *united to a man*, and " ready to shed their blood to the *last drop* " in defence of a sovereign whom they " adore." I was very glad to hear him say this so soon after he had represented *no small part of us* as " Jacobins and Levellers." Whatever else he may think of us, he does not, at any rate, attribute to us a *revengeful* disposition. He is manifestly persuaded, that we shall, in the hour of danger, totally forget all the calumnies and all the insults that have been heaped upon us; and now, I hope, he will cease from his endeavours to produce divisions amongst us. I think he will, and I should suppose that John Bowles (who must be in a terrible fright) will be cautious how he employs his venomous pen. ——But, while I hope, that we shall be unanimous in our endeavours to defend our country from without, I must put in my protest against the doctrine, that *this is no time for reformation at home*, being convinced that such reformation is absolutely necessary.——To this subject I shall return in my next.

Want of room compels me to defer what I have to offer to my readers upon *Lord Cochrane's* excellent motions, as also upon the curious affair of *Mr. Mills'* manner of coming into the honourable house; upon the *Irish insurrection* bill; upon the arrival of the *Duchess of Brunswick*; and upon the *Delicate Investigation*.

SIR HENRY MILDMAY.

Sir,——I am not surprised at any thing the Editor of the Morning Chronicle will do, in the way of political animosity, against those who are of the opposite party. But, I must confess, I am somewhat at a loss to account for the countenance and support you have given the people of that paper, in their invidious conduct towards Sir Henry Mildmay, respecting his job with the Barrack Department. It appears to me that very few of the transactions of that department are free from blame, and most of them highly reprehensible. But it is a conduct the most disgraceful in the editor of a public print, *to select one solitary circumstance*, and to follow it up with that audacious pertinacity: this with respect to Sir Henry Mildmay has been, and to leave others entirely unnoticed, and which, in point of enormity, compared with this, are as a mountain to a molehill. There can be no doubt, but this war carried on by the Morning Chronicle, against Sir Henry Mildmay, proceeds entirely from personal motives, and has not the least particle of public utility in view; and what is more to be lamented, such conduct towards an individual tends rather to strengthen and confirm abuses than to bring about a just and wholesome reformation. And you, Sir, in support of such malevolence, have gone farther than any of the facts belonging to the circumstance will justify what you have asserted. You have stated, that Sir Henry has knowingly and willingly received payment for the same thing twice. I do not mean to justify the transaction, nor have I any doubt, but this, like many others, has been a most improvident one on the part of the public. But what you have asserted with respect to Sir Henry's being paid *twice* for the same thing, is not the fact: and let it be remembered, that this assertion of yours, and two or three questions put by the Morning Chronicle, in such a way as to have a very material effect upon the public, in making up its decision upon the merits and demerits of the whole transaction. I cannot believe, if you have paid attention to the documents you have read on the subject, but that you must have discovered a clear and evident distinction, between the 400 received by Sir Henry, as a compensation for the loss of his residence, and the £400 received by him for the rent of his house. It is one thing for a gentleman to have his re-

sidence rendered so unpleasant from the vicinity of military works, and to receive a compensation to enable him to procure another residence; and another thing, to let the residence he is obliged under such circumstances to leave. The fair question is, whether the £800 per ann. Sir Henry receives, is more than an ample compensation for giving up his residence, and letting that residence with the furniture, to be occupied by any of the military staff, and used in the same way he would have used it himself. The £400 per ann. does appear to be a very ample compensation indeed, for merely the being obliged to give up a place of residence. But, I believe, it is often a very difficult matter, even for those who are on the spot, and in possession of all the circumstances that may be necessary to enable them to form an opinion, as to what is an adequate compensation in such cases. How comes it then that you and the editor of the Morning Chronicle are so competent? If it is a job so base as you and the Morning Chronicle have endeavoured to make the public believe it is, I hope all the parties concerned will receive from the public what such conduct deserves. But, I do think when the whole of *this* matter is sifted to the bottom, that the most disgraceful part of it will attach to the Editor of the Morning Chronicle, for the invidious part he has acted in this affair, and next to him, you will come in for your share, as being his bottle-holder.——I am, &c.——X. T.—*London, July 5*, 1807.

SIR H. MILDMAY.

SIR,——Englishmen in general, and the electors of Hampshire in particular, are under obligation to you for the diligence, discernment, and ability, with which you have unravelled the complicated transactions of the Moulsham Hall contract. It enables us to judge of the stern integrity of that gentleman, who in conjunction with Mr. Chute, and under the auspices of Mr. Rose, has so successfully vindicated the independence of the country. That a bargain has been made injurious to the public and advantageous to Sir H. Mildmay, was from the commencement too palpable to escape observation; but, in the progress of the discussion, I observed with concern, that the loud and confident assertions of Sir H. and his friends both in and out of parliament, began to stagger weaker minds; and that by dexterously confounding or omitting dates, and involving circumstances and details, charges would be shuffled off and eluded, which it was impossible openly and directly to repel. But after the strong and luminous exposition of facts and dates contained in your last number, I defy any man possessed of common judgment, to resist the inevitable conclusion that Sir Henry Mildmay has knowingly and willingly been *twice* paid for the same thing out of the public purse, of which he was the delegated guardian.—It is in vain that Sir H. asks, "was there any thing in the verdict of the jury that prohibited him from letting his house to the Speaker of the House of Commons, or any other individual, *or to government?*" To this I answer that there certainly was no prohibition, *no legal prohibition?* The question is not whether Sir H. kept within the limits of the law, but whether he acted in conformity to those high ideas of honour, and pure principles of integrity, which should animate every gentleman, and more particularly the boasted champion of independence, who feels "a stain like a wound," and is indignant at the bare mention of the name of MILDMAY, in the same sentence with so foul a term as PECULATION. It also appears to me, that there would have been an essential difference between letting Moulsham Hall to the "Speaker of the House of Commons, or any other *individual*," and letting it to "*government.*" Sir H. had declared that his house was rendered uninhabitable by the military works erected in its vicinity, and government in consequence released him from his obligation of residence at the public expence, which those who know Sir H. Mildmay, know also to have been an object he had long been desirous to accomplish, and which he would probably, have considered as a sufficient compensation for the deterioration of his mansion. But this was not all; government assembled a jury to award a compensation for the land occupied by their field-works, and the inconvenience he sustained in being obliged to seek another residence, and a most ample sum was consequently assigned; if after this, "the Speaker of the House of Commons, or any other individual," had chosen to give £400 a year for Moulsham Hall, which Sir H. considered *as uninhabitable*, it would have been altogether a private transaction, in which, as no one but the parties would have been interested, no one else would have had a right to interfere. But, Sir H. Mildmay must well know, that no individual would give him an ample rent for a residence so circumstanced as his then was; and as he indignantly asks, "what gentleman having such an house, so furnished would consider £400 as an equivalent?" I, in return ask him, what gentleman having £400 at his command, would give it for an house closely sur-

rounded by military works and troops, where all his tangible property without doors must be insecure, and where footpad robberies were committed nine nights out of ten in the adjacent fields? Nay, what gentleman would consent to inhabit it rent free? The honourable baronet must therefore, be fully aware that he could not have let it at any price. "But," says he, "I might have pulled it down and sold the materials"—With what face can Sir H. Mildmay come forward to make this declaration, when he knows that his obligation of residence in this very house which he talks of pulling down, was only *suspended for four years*; and when he tells us almost in the same breath that he shall be *obliged* to return to it with all its inconveniencies on the next 24th of June? The only pigeon, then, was *the public*, whose feathers, it must be confessed, rose with prompt and most inviting titillation round his fingers: but, it must also be recollected (and surely, Sir H. might have remembered it) that some generosity, some liberality, some forbearance was due to that public which had acted with so much liberality towards him. Would it have been too much to expect from Sir H. Mildmay, that he should either have made the jury acquainted with the compensation which government were about to give him for his house, by taking a lease of it on as high terms as if the inconvenience arising from the military works was not in existence; or, that he should have informed government before the execution of this lease, that the jury had taken this inconvenience into consideration, and compensated him for it, as Sir H. upon oath declared he conceived them to have done? Or would it have been too wanton and profuse an exercise of liberality in a gentleman of the baronet's property, if after having been bought out of his house, and fully remunerated for the inconvenience of being forced to quit a residence in which he never willingly placed his foot, he had made a *free and gratuitous* offer of it to government, on the sole condition of paying the taxes and keeping it in repair, which would have amounted to a rent of £200 per ann. at least? Had not the public which had virtually paid for the house, a right to expect at least thus much? When I say a *right*, I do not mean a *legal* right. Were I talking of a pettifogging attorney, an usurious money-lender, an Old Bailey swindler, or a public peculator, I would allow him to entrench himself within the formalities of *law*. But when I am speaking of a gentleman of extensive property, of high reputation, the representative of a wealthy and populous county, and the champion of ministerial purity and integrity, I cannot but suppose he will acknowledge the validity of a claim on his honour, his liberality, and his justice, to be equal to one of which the *law* could urge the enforcement: and, I ask this gentleman, *I ask his constituents, has his claim been sufficiently attended to by him?*—Yours,—A HAMPSHIRE FREEHOLDER.—*Portsmouth, July* 12, 1807.

FOREIGN OFFICIAL PAPERS.

CONTINENTAL WAR.——*Sixty-third Bulletin of the Grand French Army.*

(Concluded from page 64.)

General Bosanti had with him only a few companies of the 1st Italian regiment of the line, which took to their arms in time, marched with resolution against the enemy, and routed him.—General Teuli, on his side, with the main body of the Italian division, the regiment of musketeers of the guards, and the first company of Gens d'Armes on duty, repaired to invest Colberg. On arriving at Naugarten, he found the enemy intrenched, occupying a fort beset with pieces of cannon Colonel Boyer, of the musketeers of the guards gave an assault. Captain Montmorency of the company of Gens d'Armes, made a successful charge. The fort was taken, 300 men made prisoners, and six pieces of cannon carried off. The enemy left one hundred men upon the field of battle —General Dombrowski marched against the garrison of Dantzick: he fell in with it at Dirschau, overthrew it, made 600 prisoners, took seven pieces of cannon, and pursued it for several leagues. He was wounded with a musket ball. Marshal Lefebvre arrived in the mean time at the head of the 10th corps. He had been joined by the Saxons, and marched to invest Dantzick.—The weather is still changeable. It froze yesterday; it thaws to day. The whole winter has passed over in this manner. The thermometer has never been lower than five degrees.

64th Bulletin of the Grand French Army.

Osterode, March 2.——The town of Elbing furnishes great resources to the army: a great quantity of wine and brandy was found there. This country of the Lower Vistula is very fertile —The ambassadors from Constantinople and Persia have entered Poland, and are on their way to Warsaw.—After the battle of Eylau, the Emperor passed every day several hours upon the field of battle—a horrible spectacle, but which duty rendered necessary. It required great labour to bury all the dead. A great number of

Russian slain were found with the insignia of their orders. It appears, that among them was a Prince Repnin. Forty-eight hours after the battle, there were still upwards of 500 wounded Russians whom we had not been able to carry off. Brandy and bread were carried to them, and they were successively conveyed to the hospital. —Let any one imagine to himself, upon the space of a square league, 9 or 10,000 dead bodies, 4 or 5000 horses killed, whole lines of Russian knapsacks, broken pieces of muskets and sabres; the ground covered with cannon balls, howitzer shells, and ammunition; twenty-four pieces of cannon, near which were lying the bodies of their drivers, killed at the moment when they were striving to carry them off. All this was the more conspicuous upon a ground covered with snow: this spectacle is calculated to inspire princes with the love of peace, and an abhorrence of war. —The 5000 wounded whom we had, were all conveyed to Thorn, and to our hospitals on the left Bank of the Vistula, in sledges. The surgeons observed with astonishment, that the fatigue of this conveyance did no harm to the wounded.—The following are some details of the engagement of Braunsberg. Gen. Dupont marched against the enemy in two columns. Gen. Bruyere, who commanded the right column, fell in with the enemy at Ragarn, and drove him towards the river which runs before this village. The left column drove the enemy towards Villenberg, and the whole division shortly after stretched out of the wood. The enemy being driven from his first position, was obliged to fall back upon the river which covers the town of Braunsberg: he at first made a resolute stand, but Gen. Dupont marched against him, overthrew him by a charge, and entered with him into the town, the streets of which were choaked up with the Russian slain.——The 9th of light infantry, the 32d and the 96th of the line, which compose this division, distinguished themselves. Generals Barrois and Lahoussaye, Colonel Semele, of the 24th of the line, Colonel Muenier, of the 9th light infantry, the chief of battalion, Rouge, of the 32d of the line, and the chief of squadron, Hubinet, of the 9th hussars, are deserving of particular encomiums.—Since the arrival of the French army upon the Vistula, we have taken from the Russians in the engagements of Pultusk and Golymin, 89 pieces of cannon; at the engagement of Bergfreid, 4 pieces; in the retreat of Allenstein, 5 pieces; at the engagement of Deppen, 16 pieces; at the engagement of Holl, 12 pieces; at the battle of Eylau, 24 pieces; at the engagement of Braunsberg, 6 pieces; and at the engagement of Ostrolenka, 9 pieces: total, 175 pieces of cannon.——It has been remarked upon this subject, that the Emperor never lost any cannon in the armies which he has commanded, either in the first campaigns of Italy and Egypt, in that of the Army of Reserve, in that of Austria and Moravia, or in that of Russia and Poland.

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Osterode March 10.—The army is gone into cantonments behind the Passarge.—The Prince of Ponte Corvo is at Holland and Braunsberg; Marshal Soult at Liebstadt and Mohringen; Marshal Ney at Guttstadt; Marshal Davoust at Allenstoin, Holtenstein, and Deppin; the head quarters are at Osterode; the parish corps of observation, under General Zayonscheck, is at Nieberberg; Marshal Lefebvre is before Dantzick; the 5th corps is upon the Omulew; a division of Bavarians, under the Crown Prince, is at Warsaw; the corps of Prince Jerome, in Silesia; the 8th corps of observation is in Swedish Pomerania; the fortresses of Breslau, Scweidnitz, and Brieg, are demolished; General Rapp, Aide-de-Camp to the Emperor, is Governor of Thorn; bridges are thrown over the Vistula at Marienburg and Dirschau. —On the 1st of March, the Emperor having been informed that the enemy, encouraged by the position of our army, had shewn themselves on the right bank of the Passarge, ordered Marshals Ney and Soult to advance, reconnoitre, and drive the enemy back. Marshal Ney proceeded towards Guttstadt; Marshal Soult passed the Passarge at Wormditt. The enemy's posts, which retreated with precipitation, were pursued to the distance of eight leagues. The enemy, observing that the French were not inclined to pursue them any further, and that our force was merely an advanced guard, that had left their main body in the rear, brought forward two regiments of grenadiers, and, in the course of the night, attacked our cantonments at Zechern. The 50th regiment received them upon the point of the bayonet. The 27th and 39th regiments also conducted themselves with great courage. In these trifling affairs the Russians had nearly 1000 men killed, wounded, and made prisoners.—After having thus disturbed the enemy, the army returned again to its cantonments.—The Grand Duke of Berg, being informed that a corps of cavalry had advanced to Willenberg, ordered the Prince of Borghese to attack that place, who, at the head of his regiment, charged eight Russian squadrons, overthrew, and put them

to flight, making 100 prisoners, including three captains and eight officers.—Marshal Lefebvre has completely invested Dantzick, and commenced the lines of circumvallation round that city.

66th Bulletin of the Grand French Army.

Osterode, March 14.——The grand army remains in its cantonments, where it takes repose. Frequent skirmishes have taken place between the advanced posts of the two armies. Two regiments of Russian cavalry came on the 12th inst. to harass the 69th regiment of infantry of the line in its cantonments, at Lingour, before Guttstadt. A battalion of this regiment flew to arms from an ambuscade, attacked, and repulsed the enemy, who left 80 men on the field. General Guyot, who commands the advanced posts of Marshal Soult, has, on his side, had several affairs of outposts with the enemy, in which he has had the advantage.—— After the little battle of Willenberg, the Grand Duke of Berg expelled the Cossacks, from the whole of the right bank of the Alle. In order to assure himself that the enemy was not making some movement, he went to Wartemburg, Sedburgh, Meusguth, and Bischosburg. He had some engagements with the enemy's cavalry, and took 100 Cossacks prisoners.—The Russian army appears to be concentrated on the side of the Bartensteine on the Alle; the Prussian division on the side of Crentzbourg.——The enemy's army made a retrograde movement, and have approached nearer to Koningsberg. —The whole of the French army is in cantonments; it is provisioned by the towns of Elbing, Braunsberg, and from the resources drawn from the Island of Nogat, which is extremely fertile.—Two bridges have been erected over the Vistula, one at Marienwerder, the other at Marienberg. Marshal Lefebvre has completed the investment of Dantzic. General Lefebvre has invested Colberg. Each of these garrisons have been driven into these towns after a slight engagement.—A division of twelve thousand Bavarians, commanded by the Prince Royal of Bavaria, has crossed the Vistula at Warsaw, and is coming to join the army.

67th Bulletin of the Grand French Army.

Osterode, March 25.——On the 14th instant, at three in the afternoon, the garrison of Stralsund, taking advantage of a fog, made a sortie, with two thousand infantry, two squadrons of cavalry, and six pieces of cannon, in order to carry a redoubt thrown up by General Dupas. This redoubt, which was open, without palissades and without cannon, was defended by a company of voltigeurs, of the 58th regiment of the line. The immense superiority of the enemy had no effect upon these brave men; being reinforced by a company of voltigeurs of the 4th of the line (light infantry), under Capt. Barral, they resisted all the attempts of the Swedish brigade. Fifteen Swedish soldiers reached the parapet, but there found their death. All the enemy's attempts were equally fruitless. Sixty-two dead bodies of the Swedes were buried at the foot of the redoubt. It is supposed that 120 were wounded, and 50 were made prisoners, though there were not more than 150 men in the redoubt. Several Swedish officers were found among the dead, distinguished by their military decorations. This instance of bravery has attracted the Emperor's attention. His Majesty has sent three orders of the legion of honour for the companies engaged. Captain Drivet, who commanded on this weak redoubt, highly distinguished himself.——On the 20th, Marshal Lefebvre ordered the brigade under General Schraam to cross over from the island of Nogat, in the Erisch Haff, in order to cut off the communication between Dantzic and the sea. These orders were carried into execution at three in the morning. The Prussians were routed, and 300 of them fell into our hands. ——At six in the evening, the garrison of Dantzic sent out a detachment of 4000 men to retake the post; but they were repulsed, with the loss of some hundreds of prisoners, and one piece of cannon. General Schraam had under his command the 2d battalion of the 2d regiment of infantry, and several Saxon battalions, who distinguished themselves. The Emperor has sent three orders of the legion of honour to be distributed among the Saxon officers; and three more for the privates, subalterns, and to the major who commanded them.——In Silesia, the garrison of Niess has made a sortie, but fell into an ambuscade. A regiment of Wirtemberg cavalry took these troops in flank, killed 50, and made 60 prisoners.——The winter in Poland seems to have resembled the winter at Paris, that is to say, variable. It freezes and thaws in alternate succession. However, we have the good fortune not to have any sick in the army. On the contrary, all accounts agree that the Russians have a great number of sick. The army remains tranquil in its cantonments. The works which compose the *têtes du pont* of Sierock, Modlin, Praga, and Marienwerder, are every day becoming more formidable; and the magazines are organized, and are every where receiving provisions. Three hundred

thousand bottles of Bourdeaux wine were found at Elbing; and though each bottle cost four francs, the Emperor paid that price to the merchants, and ordered the wine to be distributed among the army.—The Emperor has sent the Prince Borghese upon a mission to Warsaw.

68th Bulletin of the Grand French Army.

Osterode, March 29.——On the 17th of March, at three o'clock in the morning, the General of Brigade Lefebvre, Aid-de-Camp to Prince Jerome, passed near Glatz, in his way to Wunchelsbourg, with three squadrons of light horse and the Taxis regiment of light infantry, when 1500 men, with two pieces of cannon, made a sortie from the place. Lieut. Col. Gerrard immediately attacked and drove them back into Glatz, after having taken 100 soldiers, several officers, and two pieces of artillery.—— Marshal Massena is gone from Willenberg to Ortelsbourg, and forced an entrance there for the division of Becker's dragoons, which he has reinforced with a detachment of Polish horse. There were some Cossacks at Ortelsbourg, and several attacks were made, in which the enemy lost 20 men.—General Becker, as he was coming to resume his position at Willenberg, was attacked by 2000 Cossacks. An ambuscade of infantry was formed, into which they fell, and lost 200 men.—On the 26th, at five o'clock in the morning, the garrison of Dantzic made a general sortie, which proved very fatal. It was repulsed on all sides. A colonel, named Cracaw, who had a command, was taken with 400 men, and two pieces of cannon, in an attack made by the 19th regiment of chasseurs. The Northern Polish Legion conducted itself in an excellent manner, and two Saxon battalions distinguished themselves.——As for the rest, there is nothing new. The lakes are still frozen; though there is some appearance of the approach of spring.

69th Bulletin of the Grand French Army.

Finkenstein, April 4.——The gens d'armes of the ordnance have arrived at Marienwerder, and Marshal Bessieres has set out for that place, in order to review them. They have behaved remarkably well, and have displayed great courage in all the affairs in which they have been engaged. Gen. Teuli, who still superintends the blockade of Colberg, has in that command exhibited great activity and skill. The conducting of the siege is now entrusted to Gen. Loison. On the 19th of March the redoubts of Selnow were attacked and carried by the 1st regiment of Italian light infantry. On this occasion the garrison made a sortie; but the company of carbineers of the 1st regiment of light infantry, and a company of dragoons, drove them back. The voltigeurs of the 19th regiment of the line, distinguished themselves greatly in the attack on the village of Allstadt. In that affair the enemy lost three pieces of cannon and 200 prisoners. Marshal Lefebvre commands at the siege of Dantzic, and General Lariboisiere has the direction of the artillery. The latter corps shews itself in all circumstances worthy of the fame which it has so justly acquired. The French cannoniers will merit the name of select troops. The manner in which the battalions of the train have performed their service has also afforded perfect satisfaction. —The Emperor has given audience at Finkenstein to a deputation from the chamber of Marienwerder. It consisted of Count Von Groeben, Counsellor Baron Von Schleinitz, and Count Von Dohna, Director of the Chamber. The deputation represented to his Majesty the great hardships which the inhabitants had suffered from the war. The Emperor answered, that he entertained a lively feeling for their sufferings, and that he would relieve Marienwerder, as well as Elbing, from the burthen of any extraordinary contribution. He farther observed, that there were evils belonging to the theatre of war which could not be avoided; that he participated in the regret which those evils occasioned, and would do every thing in his power to mitigate them.—It is believed that his Majesty will this day set out on a short journey to Marienwerder and Elbing. The second Bavarian division has arrived at Warsaw. The Crown Prince of Bavaria has gone to Pultusk to take the command of the first division. The Hereditary Prince of Baden has marched at the head of his corps of troops to Dantzic. The contingent of Saxe-Weimar has arrived upon the Warta. —There has not been a shot fired for a fortnight past at the advanced posts of the army. The heat of the sun begins to be felt, but it is not yet sufficiently powerful to penetrate and thaw the earth. All is still bound in frost. Spring approaches slowly in this country. A number of couriers arrive at the head-quarters from Constantinople and Persia.

To be continued.

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